

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 00037 060838Z

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ACTION H-03

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R 060803Z JAN 75

FM ANENBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3856

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 0037

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OREP (THURMOND, STROM)

SUBJECT: CODEL THURMOND

REF: TDC 060405Z JAN 75

1. SEN. AND MRS. SKTROM THURMOND, AND SEN. AND MRS.

WILLIAM SCOTT VISITED TUAPEI DEC. 31 - JAN 2. CODEL REC-EIVED EMBASSY, US MILITARY, AND ROC MILITARY BRIEFINGS, AND CALLED ON THE VICE PRESIDENT, PREMIER, CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF, PRESIDENT OF THE LEGISLATIVE YUAN, AND KU CHENG-KANG (HONORARY CHAIRMAN OF WORLD ANTI-COMMUNIST LEAGUE). HEY WERE ENTERTAINED AT LUNCHEON BY THE AMBASSADOR, AND AT DINNSNER BY THE FOREIGN MNINISTER. SEN. AND MRS. SCOTT WERE HOZSTED AT LUNCH BY KU CHENG-KANG. THE THURMONDS WERE GIVEN A HELICQOPTER TOUR OF TAIPEI AND ENVIRONS. MRS. THURMFOND AND MRS. SCOTT VISITED THE CHENG HSING CHILDREN'S REHABILITATION CENTER. SCHEDULED CALL ON MDME CHIANG WAS CANCELLED BECAUSE OF HERE INDISPOSITION.

2. IN BRIEFINGS AND IN DISCUSSION WITH THE CHINESE, SENATORS SEEMED PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN STRENGTH OF THE US-ROC RELATIONSHIP, ABILITY OF US FORCES TO COME TO DEFENSE OF TAIWAN IN THE EVENT OF ATTACK, AND ABILITY OF ROC FORCES TO DETER AN INVASION ATTEMPT (REFTEL).

3. IN DISCUSSION WITH PREMIER CHIANG, SENATORS EXPRESSED THEIR STRONG FRIENDSHIP FOR ROC. ALTHOUGH THE US NEEDS TO HAVE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES, THEY SAID, THE NATIONALIST CHINESE ARE OUR REALY FRIENDS. SENATORS ALLIED
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PAGE 02 TAIPEI 00037 060838Z

THEMSELVES WITH VIEWS OF SENATOR FONG ON THE ROC AND PRC, AS

RECENTLY PUBLISHED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL REGISTER, AND STATED BELIEF THAT US SHOULD AVOID TAKING ANY ACTION WHICH WOULD ENDANGER THE ROC. SENATORS SAID THEY BELIEVED THAT THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF PRESIDENT FORD TO THE PRC SHOULD NOT CAUSE ROC ANY PROBLEMS. THE PREMIER DID NOT COMMENT ON THE FORD VISIT.

4. THE VISIT WENT SMOOTHLY, AND CODEL APPEARED SATISFIED WITH SCHEDULE AND ARRANGEMENTS.

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